Prices of slack-wax

674. SHRI ASHWANI KUMAR: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the increase in the price of slack-wax by Rs. 500 per m.t. in October, 1986 has resulted in an increase of about Rs. 1000 per m.t. in the prices of peraffin wax produced by small-scale manufacturers, without any similar corresponding rise on the poducts of large-scale manufacturers like the Assam Oil Company;

(b) whether it is also a fact that the small units are not getting the requisite supply of slack-wax while the larger units are getting almost the full supply of the raw material; and

(c) if so, the resulting impact on small-scale units and steps taken to remove their difficulties?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): (a) With effect from 1st Oct, 1986 the price of Slack Wax ex-Haldia was reduced substantially while the prices ex-Barauni and ex-Madras were increased. Subsequently the prices were reduced from Rs. 4800/MT to Rs. 4500/MT ex-Barauni, from Rs. 3970/MT to Rs. 3735/MT ex-Haldia and from Rs. 4912.10 to Rs. 4662. 10/MT ex-Madras w.e.f. 1-2-1987 While the prices of Paraffin wax prodced by oil companies are fixed by the Govt. and have not changed prices of the product produced by small scale manufacturers depended on their individual operational efficiency.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Does not arise.

12.00 Noon

Papers laid on the table

I. Report and Account (1985-86) of the Oil Industry Deevlopment Board, New Delhi and related papers;

II. Oil Industry Development Board Employees (Medical Attendance) Amendment Rules, 1986.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI BRAHM DUTT): I lay on the Table:—

I. A copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following papers:—

(i) Twelfth Annual Report and Accounts of the Oil Industry Development Board, New Delhi, for the year 1985-86, together with the Audit Report on the Accounts under sub-section (4) of section 20 of the Oil Industry Development Act. 1974.

(ii) Review by Government on the working of the Board.

(iii) Statement giving reasons for the delay in laying the papers mentioned at (i) above.

[Placed in Library. *See* No. LT—3672/87]

II. A copy (in English and Hindi) of the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, Notification G.S.R. No; 1278(E), dated the 11th December, 1986, publishing the Oil Industry Development Board Employees (Medical Attendance) Amendments Rules, 1986 under sub-section (3) of section 1 of the Oil Industry (Development) Act, 1974. [Placed in Library See No. LT-367-/8]

High Court Judges travelling allowance (Amendment) Rules, 1986

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI HANSRAJ BHARDWAJ): I lay